

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method, comprising:
2 broadcasting meta-data to one or more client systems, including descriptions
3 of a first plurality of data files available from a service provider system and a second
4 plurality of data files to be broadcast by a broadcast service system;
5 rating the first plurality of data files and second plurality of data files; and
6 broadcasting a portion of the first plurality of data files to the one or more
7 client systems in response to the ratings and the second plurality of data files to be
8 broadcast by the broadcast service.

1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 receiving ratings of the first plurality of data files and second plurality of data
3 files from the one or more client systems;
4 selecting a portion of the first and second plurality of data files which have
5 having higher ratings based on the received ratings;
6 determining overlapping data files as data files from the selected portion of the
7 first and second plurality of data files to be broadcast by the broadcast service system;
8 and
9 eliminating, from the selected portion of the first plurality of data files, the
10 overlapping data files to form the portion of the first plurality of data files to be
11 broadcast to the one or more client systems by the service provider.

1 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:
2 broadcasting a service provider broadcast schedule of the portion of the first
3 plurality of data files prior to broadcasting the portion of the first plurality of data
4 files; and
5 broadcasting a broadcast schedule for the overlapping data files prior to
6 broadcast by the broadcast service system.

1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising broadcasting a broadcast
2 schedule of the meta-data prior to broadcasting the meta-data to the one or more client
3 systems.

1 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 receiving compensation for each stored data file accessed by a user; and
3 dividing the compensation between the service provider system and the
4 broadcast service system based on a source of each data file, such that the source of
5 the data file is one of the service provider system and the broadcast service system
6 and receives a larger compensation portion and a non-source receives a smaller
7 compensation portion.

1 6. A method, comprising:
2 receiving meta-data, the meta-data including descriptions of a first plurality of
3 data files available from a service provider system and a second plurality of data files
4 to be broadcast by a broadcast service system;
5 rating, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first and second
6 plurality of data files described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated
7 responsive to a user;
8 receiving a portion of the first plurality of data files broadcast by the service
9 provider system and the second plurality of data files broadcast by the broadcast
10 service system; and
11 storing, based on the content rating table, one or more of a portion of the
12 second plurality of data files broadcast by the broadcast service system and one or
13 more of the portion of the first plurality of data files broadcast by the service provider
14 system.

1 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
2 transmitting the ratings of the at least one of the first and second plurality of data files
3 to the service provider system.

1 8. The method of claim 6 further comprising:
2 receiving a broadcast schedule of the meta-data, the client system activated in
3 response to the broadcast schedule;
4 receiving a first broadcast schedule for the portion of the first plurality of data
5 files of data files prior to receiving the portion of the first plurality of data files;
6 receiving a second broadcast schedule for the portion of the second plurality of
7 data files prior to receiving the second plurality of data files in order to store one or
8 more of the portion of the first plurality of data files and one or more of the portion of
9 the second plurality of data files.

1 9. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
2 receiving a selection from a user for a stored data file;
3 determining a content provider for the selected data file, wherein the content
4 provider is one of the broadcast service system, the service provider system, and a
5 premium content provider; and
6 billing the user a predetermined amount for selection of the stored data based
7 on the content provider of the selected data file.

1 10. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
2 determining a content provider for each stored data file, wherein the content
3 provider is one of the broadcast service system, the service provider system, and a
4 premium content provider, such that attribution is given to the content provider of
5 each stored content data file when presented to a user.

1 11. The method of claim 6, wherein the storing of data files further
2 comprises:
3 placing each stored data file in a common repository irrespective of a content
4 provider of the data file, such that a user can access a single location for selecting
5 stored content data files.

1 12. A method, comprising:
2 receiving meta-data, the meta-data including descriptions of a first plurality of
3 data files available from a service provider system and a second plurality of data files
4 to be broadcast by a broadcast service system;
5 rating, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first and second
6 plurality of data files described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated
7 responsive to a user;
8 receiving a broadcast schedule for a portion of the second plurality of data
9 files broadcast by the broadcast service system;
10 selectively receiving, based on the content rating table, a portion of the first
11 plurality of data files broadcast by the service provider system;
12 storing one or more of the portion of the first plurality of data files broadcast
13 by the service provider system; and
14 when data files from the portion of the second plurality of data files are
15 available based on the broadcast schedule, storing one or more of the data files based
16 on the content rating table.

1 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 transmitting the ratings of the at least one of the first and second plurality of
3 data files to the service provider system.

1 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising:
2 receiving a meta-data broadcast schedule broadcast by the service provider
3 system, a client system activated in response to the meta-data broadcast schedule.
4 receiving a service provider broadcast schedule of the first plurality of data
5 files prior to selectively receiving the portion of the first plurality of data files.

1 15. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
3 a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications
4 interface to broadcast data to one or more client systems, and to receive data from the
5 one or more client systems;
6 a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions
7 stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:
8 broadcast meta-data to one or more client systems, including descriptions of a
9 first plurality of data files available from a service provider system and a second
10 plurality of data files to be broadcast by a broadcast service system,
11 rate the first plurality of data files and second plurality of data files, and
12 broadcast a portion of the first plurality of data files to the one or more client
13 systems in response to the ratings and the second plurality of data files to be broadcast
14 by the broadcast service system.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the processor is further caused to
2 select a portion of the first and second plurality of data files, which have higher
3 ratings based on the received ratings.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 receive ratings of the first plurality of data files and second plurality of data
3 files from the one or more client systems,
4 select a portion of the first and second plurality of data files which have
5 having higher ratings based on the received ratings,
6 determine overlapping data files as data files from the selected portion of the
7 first and second plurality of data files to be broadcast by the broadcast service system,
8 eliminate, from the portion of the first and second plurality of data files, the
9 overlapping data files to form the portion of the first plurality of data files to be
10 broadcast to the one or more client systems,

11 broadcast a service provider broadcast schedule of the portion of the first
12 plurality of data files prior to broadcasting the portion of the first plurality of data
13 files, and
14 broadcast a broadcast schedule for the overlapping data files prior to broadcast
15 by the broadcast service system.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the processor is further caused to
2 broadcast a meta-data broadcast schedule of the meta-data prior to broadcasting the
3 meta-data to the one or more client systems.

1 19. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
3 a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications
4 interface to receive data broadcast from a service provider system, and to transmit
5 data to the service provider system;
6 a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions
7 stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:
8 receive meta-data, the meta-data including descriptions of a first plurality of
9 data files available from a service provider server system and a second plurality of
10 data files to be broadcast by a broadcast service system,
11 rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first and second
12 plurality of data files described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated
13 responsive to a user,
14 receive a portion of the first plurality of data files broadcast by the service
15 provider system and data files from a portion of the second plurality of data files
16 broadcast by the broadcast service system, and
17 store, based on the content rating table, one or more of the data files from the
18 portion of the second plurality of data files and one or more of the portion of the first
19 plurality of data files.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 transmit the ratings of the at least one of the first and second plurality of data
3 files to the service provider system.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 receive a meta-data set broadcast schedule broadcast by the service provider
3 server system, the client system activated in response to the meta-data broadcast
4 schedule;
5 receive a first broadcast schedule for the first portion of the first plurality of
6 data files prior to receiving the portion of the first plurality of data files, and
7 receive a second broadcast schedule for the portion of the second plurality of
8 data files, prior to receiving data files from the portion of the second plurality of data
9 files, in order to store one or more of the portion of the first plurality of data files and
10 one or more of the portion of the second plurality of data files.

1 22. An apparatus comprising:
2 a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
3 a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications
4 interface to receive data broadcast from a service provider system, the
5 communications interface further coupled to transmit data to the service provider
6 system;
7 a storage device coupled to the processor, having sequences of instructions
8 stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:
9 receive meta-data, the meta-data including descriptions of a first plurality of
10 data files available from a service provider system and a second plurality of data files
11 to be broadcast by a broadcast service system,
12 rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first and second
13 plurality of data files described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated
14 responsive to a user,
15 receive a broadcast schedule for a portion of the second plurality of data files
16 broadcast by the broadcast service system,

17 selectively receive, based on the content rating table, a portion of the first
18 plurality of data files broadcast by the service provider system,
19 store one or more of the portion of the first plurality of data files broadcast by
20 the service provider system, and
21 when data files from the portion of the second plurality of data files are
22 available based on the broadcast schedule, store one or more data files from the
23 portion of the second plurality of data files.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 transmit the ratings of the at least one of the first and second plurality of data
3 files to the service provider system.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the processor is further caused to:
2 receive a meta-data broadcast schedule broadcast by the service provider
3 system, the client system activated in response to the meta-data broadcast schedule;
4 and
5 receive a service provider broadcast schedule of the first plurality of data files
6 prior to selectively receiving the portion of the first plurality of data files.

1 25. A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which
2 when executed by a processor cause the processor to:
3 broadcast meta-data to one or more client systems, including descriptions of a
4 first plurality of data files available from a service provider system and a second
5 plurality of data files to be broadcast by a broadcast service system,
6 rate the first plurality of data files and second plurality of data files, and
7 broadcast a portion of the first plurality of data files to the one or more client
8 systems in response to the ratings and the second plurality of data files to be broadcast
9 by the broadcast service system.

1 26. The machine-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 receive ratings of the first plurality of data files and second plurality of data
4 files from the one or more client systems,
5 select a portion of the first and second plurality of data files which have
6 having higher ratings based on the received ratings,
7 determine overlapping data files as data files from the selected portion of the
8 first and second plurality of data files to be broadcast by the broadcast service system,
9 and
10 eliminate, from the selected portion of the first and second plurality of data
11 files, the overlapping data files to form the portion of the first plurality of data files to
12 be broadcast to the one or more client system.

1 27. The machine-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 combine the ratings received from the client systems, if ratings are received
4 from more than one client system, to generate an overall ratings list of the first and
5 second plurality of data files.

1 28. A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which
2 when executed by a processor cause the processor to:
3 receive meta-data, the meta-data including descriptions of a first plurality of
4 data files available from a service provider server system and a second plurality of
5 data files to be broadcast by a broadcast service system,
6 rate, in response to a content rating table, at least one of the first and second
7 plurality of data files described by the meta-data, the content rating table generated
8 responsive to a user,
9 receive a portion of the first plurality of data files broadcast by the service
10 provider system and data files from a portion of the second plurality of data files
11 broadcast by the broadcast service system, and
12 store, based on the content rating table, one or more of the data files from the
13 portion of the second plurality of data files broadcast by the broadcast service system

14 and one or more of the portion of the first plurality of data files broadcast by the
15 service provider system.

1 29. The machine-readable medium of claim 28 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 transmit the ratings of the at least one of the first and second plurality of data
4 files to the service provider system.

1 30. The machine-readable medium of claim 28 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 remove data files stored on a client system once viewed by a user, and
4 replace deleted data files with additional data files broadcast by the service
5 provider system and the broadcast service system using the content rating table.

1 31. The machine-readable medium of claim 28 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 receive a selection from a user for a stored data file;
4 determine a content provider for the selected data file, wherein the content
5 provider is one of the broadcast service system, the service provider system, and a
6 premium content provider; and
7 bill the user a predetermined amount for selection of the stored data based on
8 the content provider of the selected data file.

1 32. The machine-readable medium of claim 28 wherein the processor is
2 further caused to:
3 determine a content provider for each stored data file, wherein the content
4 provider is one of the broadcast service system, the service provider system, and a
5 premium content provider, such that attribution is given to the content provider of
6 each stored content data file when presented to a user.

1 33. The machine-readable medium of claim 28 wherein the instruction for
2 storing the data files further causes the processor to:
3 place each stored data file in a common repository irrespective of a content
4 provider of the data file, such that a user can access a single location for selecting
5 stored content data files.

1 34. A system, comprising:
2 a service provider broadcast server; and
3 one or more client systems coupled to the service provider broadcast server,
4 wherein meta-data is broadcast to the one or more client systems, the meta-
5 data including descriptions of a first plurality of data files available from the service
6 provider broadcast server and a second plurality of data files to be broadcast by a
7 broadcast service system,
8 wherein the one or more client systems rate, in response to a content rating
9 table, one or more of the first and second plurality of data files described by the meta-
10 data, the content rating table generated responsive to data files previously accessed,
11 wherein the one or more client systems transmit, to the service provider
12 broadcast server, the ratings of the first and second plurality of data files,
13 wherein the service provider server selects a portion of the first and second
14 plurality of the data files in response to the ratings received from the one or more
15 client systems, and
16 wherein the service provider system further broadcasts the selected portion of
17 the first plurality of data files to the one or more client system.

1 35. The system of claim 34, wherein each one of the one or more client
2 systems selectively store data files from the selected portion of the first and second
3 plurality of data files in response to a content rating table associated with each
4 respective one of the one or more of client systems.

1 36. The system of claim 34 wherein each one of the one or more client
2 systems selectively receive data files from the selected portion of the first and second
3 plurality of data files in response to a content rating table associated with each
4 respective one of the one or more of client systems.

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